

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JWKIMBALL:JPC

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INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 272559

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA

SUBJECT. KOREA AT 29TH UNGA: FONMIN KIM'S TALK WITH ASS'T
SECRETARY BUFFUM, DECEMBER 11

REF: USUN 5874

CINCPAC FOR POLAD PASS HABIB AND SNEIDER

1. SUMMARY: CONVERSATION CENTERED ON POSSIBILITY OF PRO-
POSAL THAT KOREAN RESOLUTION WOULD REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS
MAJORITY FOR ADOPTION IN PLENARY AS "IMPORTANT QUESTION"
(IQ) UNDER UN CHARTER. KIM DID NOT CONTEST NEED FOR FLEX-
IBILITY BUT CLEARLY HOPED FRIENDLY RESOLUTION WOULD BE
ADOPTED WITHOUT AMENDMENT OR FURTHER NEED TO COMPROMISE.
BUFFUM SAID WE PREFERRED THAT RESULT BUT STRESSED THROUGHOUT
CONVERSATION NEED FOR PRESERVING MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN
HANDLING PLENARY PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY MOVES BY OTHERS TO
RAISE IQ. END SUMMARY.

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2. KIM REVIEWED HIS TALK WITH AMBASSADOR SCALI (REFTEL)

REITERATING HIS VIEW THAT TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY NOT NECESSARY FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND THAT US/ROK SIDE HAS ALREADY MADE CONCESSIONS IN ITS POSITION AND THERE IS NO FURTHER ROOM FOR MOVEMENT ON OUR SIDE TOWARD "COMPROMISE" OUTCOME. IN ELABORATING LATTER POINT, HE SAID FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS HAD ALREADY COMPROMISED TO LIMIT IN ACCEPTING FRENCH AND SAUDI AMENDMENTS. OTHER SIDE HAS SHOWN NO WILLINGNESS TO MAKE EQUIVALENT MOVES.

3. AMBASSADOR BUFFUM WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW WITH FONMIN PROSPECTS FOR PLENARY HANDLING OF KOREAN ITEM. HE EXPLAINED AMBASSADOR SCALI WAS VERY CONSCIOUS OF POSSIBILITY OF LAST MINUTE UNEXPECTED PROPOSALS IN UNGA. WE BELIEVE THAT IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN MAXIMUM TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY TO ACT WITHIN SCOPE OF OUR OVERALL OBJECTIVES.

4. WE EXPECT UNGA TO ADOPT OUR RESOLUTION WITHOUT AMENDMENTS OR PROCEDURAL MANEUVERS FROM OTHER SIDE ON IQ. WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ABANDONING OUR SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS. FURTHER, WE DOUBT NORTH KOREAN SUPPORTERS WILL PERCEIVE ADVANTAGE IN RAISING IQ. IF THEY OR OTHERS DO, HOWEVER, WE WOULD WANT TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND. OUR RESOLUTION CLEARLY RELATES TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY; MANY OF OUR FRIENDS WOULD CONSIDER IT A VALID "IMPORTANT QUESTION" UNDER THE CHARTER. INDEED, WITH VIEW TO FUTURE ASSEMBLIES, BUFFUM SAID WE SEE REAL ADVANTAGES IN ESTABLISHING PRECEDENT THAT RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING THOSE INSPIRED BY NORTH KOREA, REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY. AGREEING TO IQ WOULD HELP ENSURE DEFEAT OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ADOPTION OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION IS NOT ESSENTIAL TO OUR INTERESTS AND WHERE WE CAN POINT TO CLEAR MAJORITY IN FAVOR OUR POSITION ON BASIS FIRST COMMITTEE VOTE.

5. ON OTHER HAND, WE DOUBTED OUR SIDE SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE TO RAISE IQ SINCE DOING SO COULD SOW DOUBT AND CONFUSION AMONG OUR SUPPORTERS AT UNGA.

6. FONMIN KIM WAS INTRIGUED BY ABOVE RATIONALE AND
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TENTATIVELY AGREED WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ACQUIESCE IN SUCH A MOVE IF MADE BY OTHERS. HE SAID HE WOULD STUDY MATTER FURTHER ON HIS RETURN TO SEOUL. INGERSOLL

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